



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

STAFF PRESENT
AMIE HAYES, PLANNER
KRISTI CHASE, PRESERVATION PLANNER

MEMBERS PRESENT
ABBY FREEDMAN
ERIC PARKES

Minutes for 3/06/13 Public Meeting

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting on **Wednesday, March 6, 2013, at 10:00 a.m.** in City Hall, 2nd Floor Executive Conference Room, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss an amendment to an existing Memorandum of Agreement regarding 360 Mystic Avenue and 95-101 Wheatland Street.

The Commission members determined that a reconstruction of the existing wood structure to include a brick component is the appropriate direction.

The Commissioners identified elements of the wood building, 360 Mystic Avenue, to remain consistent with the existing building. The overall height is to remain the same; however, the existing building is three stories in height with a raised brick foundation and the reconstruction would be four stories in height with a brick foundation that extends up the façade to the sill of the first story windows. The extended height of the foundation should allow space for recessed arches, to reflect the size and pattern of the original arched openings. These arches could be used to house components of an interpretive exhibit. The corner building's low roof pitch shall remain consistent with the existing which should include brackets beneath the eaves. The bracket feature is not necessary to replicate with the existing, but the feature itself should be retained. The overall fenestration rhythm and pattern should be consistent; Wheatland Street should retain the original ten bays while the Mystic Avenue façade will become five bays to encompass the width of the tower component on the interior elevation, but still maintain the original pattern and rhythm. The exterior cladding should be reminiscent of historic wood cladding, whether the material is real or simulated; however, the material shall be solid (front to back) and have no fake grain. The windows should be wood with simulated six over six divided lights. The window sash should be a dark color.

The Commissioners then identified elements of the brick component of the existing wood structure to remain consistent with the existing building. The height shall be comprised of two stories with five bays and include a low roof pitch. The bays may be modified to reflect the asymmetry that currently exists but the rhythm should still be retained. The height of the new construction above shall be recessed to articulate the brick component below. The windows should be wood with simulated six over six divided lights. The window sash should be a dark color and retain the arch above with brick articulation.

The Commissioners also identified elements of the new building that should be differentiated from the reconstruction of the existing wood building, 360 Mystic Avenue. These elements are the exterior cladding, roof line, window pattern and rhythm, and foundation material.

The meeting concluded at approximately 11:30 a.m.

